



Bulletin

2003-17B

TO: Mayors, City Managers, Selectmen
Executive Directors, Sewer Authorities
Commissioners, Sewer Districts
City and Town Treasurers

FROM: James R. Johnson, Director of Accounts

DATE: August 2003

TOPIC: Sewer Rate Relief Fund – FY2004

The Sewer Rate Relief Fund operates under the provisions of Chapter 29 §2Z of the General Laws. The Fund was created in 1993 to mitigate escalating costs of sewer service in the Commonwealth. Awards were based on “eligible debt service” and were calculated at up to 20% of debt service.

In FY94, over \$20 million was awarded, increasing to over \$60 million in FY02. In FY03, no funds were disbursed. In FY04, \$5 million is appropriated. Consequently, we anticipate awards this fiscal year will be in the range of 1 ½ % of eligible debt service.

Details of the program are unchanged. Eligible debt service is defined as:

- permanent debt issued on or after January 1, 1990 for a term greater than five years,
- for water pollution control projects,
- projects which received state grants are ineligible,
- projects financed through MWPAT are generally ineligible.

The Division of Local Services administers the program in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection. Applications should be submitted using the attached form, and returned by Friday, September 19, 2003 to William C. Meehan, at the address below. Mr. Meehan’s telephone is (617) 626-2382.

We are unable to provide customized applications as in prior years, due to the suspension of the program last year. We are, however, including the proposed use of the award funds on the application, rather than asking for the proposed use after the awards have been made, in an effort to simplify operation of the program.

COMMONWEALTH SEWER RATE RELIEF FUND



APPLICATION FOR FY2004 DISTRIBUTION

City/Town/District/Authority

A. RECORD OF ELIGIBLE INDEBTEDNESS:

List permanent debt issued for **more than five years** (i. e., do not list bond anticipation notes) **on or after January 1, 1990** wholly or in substantial part to finance or refinance the costs of planning, design, or construction of any water pollution control project or part thereof **required to meet the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act** (33 USC, sec. 1251 et seq.) and secs. 26 to 53 inclusive of M.G.L. Ch. 21 or any wastewater collection or transportation project related thereto. Attach additional sheets if needed.

Any project for which **state grants** were received is ineligible.

Projects financed through the **Mass. Water Pollution Abatement Trust** are also ineligible unless the total debt issued through MWPAT exceeded \$50,000,000 on June 30, 1995.

Purpose (description and location of work)	Issue Date	Original Amount*	FY2004 Debt Service*	Grants Received?
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TOTAL FY2004 Debt Service \$ _____

***Attach a debt service schedule for the life of the bonds unless submitted previously.**

B. USE OF AWARD PROCEEDS:

Describe briefly how the award, if any, will be used to reduce rates in the current or future years, or finance capital projects which would otherwise be financed through borrowing.

C. CERTIFICATION:

We certify that the above listed debt was issued on or after January 1, 1990 for a term greater than five years to finance or refinance the costs of planning, design, or construction of a water pollution control project or part thereof required to meet the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 USC, secs. 1251 et seq.) and secs. 26 to 53 inclusive of M. G. L. Ch. 21.

Mayor	_____	Exec. Director	_____
Manager	_____	Commissioners	_____
Selectmen	_____		_____
	_____		_____
	_____		_____
	_____	Treasurer	_____
	_____	Phone	_____
		Fax	_____

D. Return by September 19, 2003 by mail or fax:

Division of Local Services
Attn: William Meehan, Supervisor of Public Finance
P.O. Box 55490
Boston, MA 02205-5490 FAX (617) 626-3916